

PERSONAL EVANGELISM

MAY 4, 2015 BY **EVANGELISMCOACH**

3 COMMENTS

Conference: Personal Evangelism for Ordinary People – Eastern North Carolina. August 14-15, 2015

Imagine:

- You confidently answer a question about why you follow Jesus.
- Your friend asks you how you became a Christian and you give a clear story.
- You share the gospel story without being tongue-tied.

Just this week, I met a church member who felt that evangelism was not doable because he felt he had

- no talent,
- no skill,
- nor verbally eloquent like his pastor.



My friend lacked any confidence that he could witness to anyone. [\[Read more...\]](#)

Filed Under: [Conferences](#), [Personal Evangelism](#), [Training Options](#)

MAY 1, 2015 BY **EVANGELISMCOACH**

4 COMMENTS

Faith Story Number 1: What's New Story

God is at work in my life.

- I'm learning new things from reading in Scripture.
- I'm seeing God's hand of provision for this ministry and our work in Latin America.
- I'm being challenged by God's Word to make some specific changes in my life.

Specific examples of each one of these would be the first story that every Christian should master.

I call this: **The What's New Story**.

What kind of story is this?

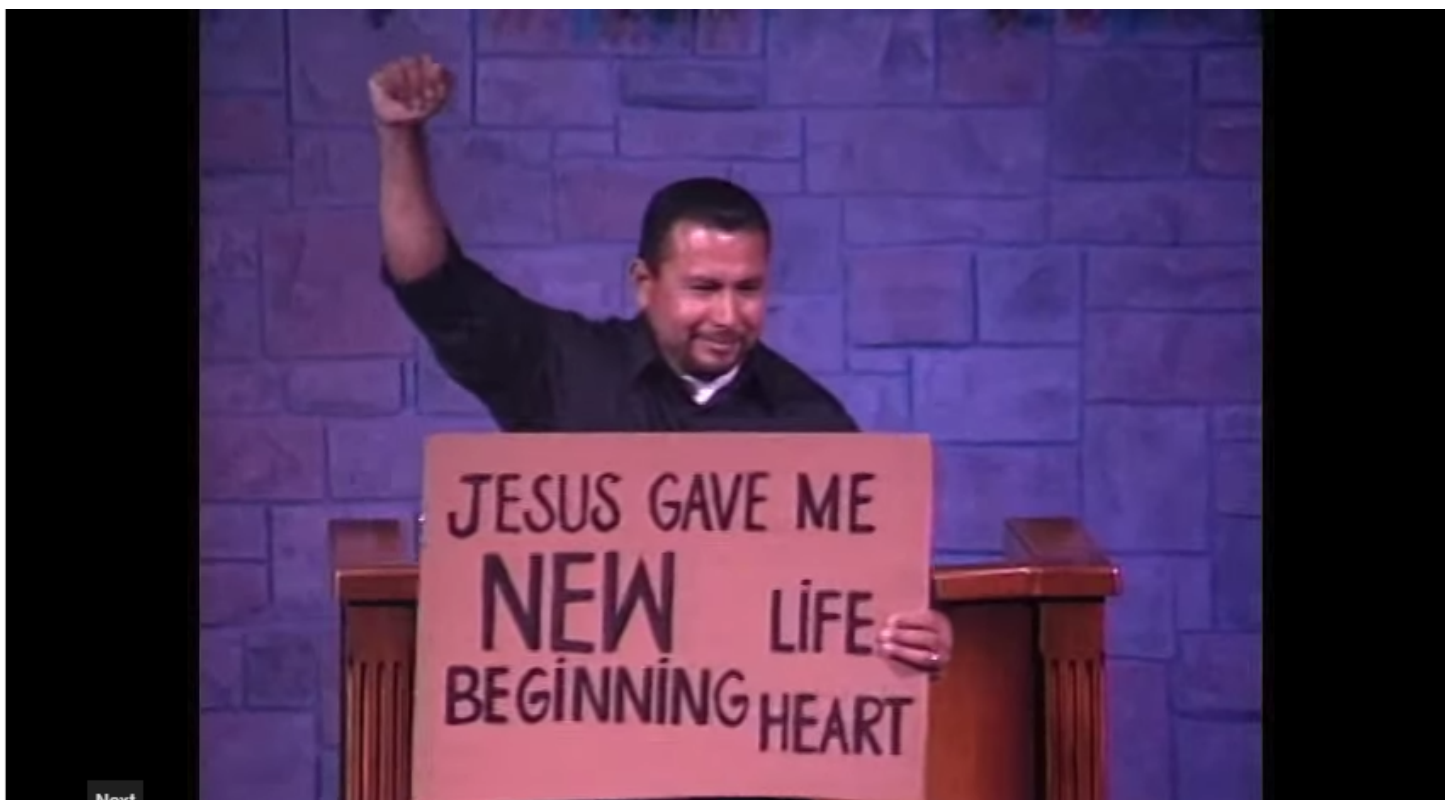
[\[Read more...\]](#)

Filed Under: [Personal Evangelism](#)

APRIL 3, 2015 BY **EVANGELISMCOACH**

LEAVE A COMMENT

A Good Friday Reminder – Jesus Changes Lives



One challenge to shortening a personal testimony is to get at this core question:

What difference has Jesus made in your life?

As I watched this video below, [\[Read more...\]](#)

Filed Under: [Personal Evangelism](#), [Personal Testimony](#), [Video](#) Tagged With: [Personal Evangelism](#), [Personal Testimony](#), [Transformation](#)

JANUARY 2, 2015 BY **EVANGELISMCOACH****3 COMMENTS**

Conference: Personal Evangelism for Ordinary People

February 28, 2015

Imagine:

- You confidently answer a question about why you follow Jesus.
- Your friend asks you how you became a Christian and you give a clear story.
- You share the gospel story without being tongue-tied.

I once met a church member who felt that evangelism was not doable because he felt he had

- no talent,
- no skill,
- nor verbally eloquent like his pastor.

My friend **lacked any confidence that he could witness to anyone.**

Maybe you feel the same way. You find personal evangelism intimidating. You would rather clean a pig sty instead of talking about Jesus to your friends.

I was.



Learn how Personal Evangelism can be Natural

The Personal Evangelism for Ordinary People seminar will help you overcome those natural fears and find fresh freedom in sharing your faith.

As you go through the seminar with Chris Walker, you'll

- Learn to recognize God given moments to talk about your faith
- Discover evangelism can be as normal and natural as breathing.
- Find and develop the four core evangelism skills you need, even if you don't know your Bible.



Discover a compassion for the lost and learn how to share your faith.

This seminar is designed to give you a clear understanding of personal evangelism which results in a compassion that swallows fear and equips you to be effective in everyday life.

It's designed to move you from clumsy to confident in just ONE day.

Coming to Richmond Virginia, February 28, 2015

If you live in or near the Richmond Virginia area **you don't want to miss this [FREE event](#).** . . .

Chris will help you find the same confidence that has helped him talk about his faith in Christ to anyone who asks. He used to be the obnoxious evangelist no one wants to be and has learned core skills to make evangelism accessible to you.

The seminar dispelled the fears associated with evangelism. Both personal stories and Biblical truth provided a framework from which to proceed in making sharing my faith conversationally more a part of my lifestyle.

I would highly recommend this class to anyone with a heart for becoming more verbal in their witness. — Participant

Come to learn some of the practical ways Chris has discovered to share your faith out of his research, study, and first hand real life experience from serving as a local pastor, planting two churches and doing evangelism work cross culturally in 9 different countries.

Date:

Saturday, February 28, 2015

9:00a – 4:00p

[Registration](#) opens at 8:30am.

Location:

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Richmond Virginia

4103 Monument Avenue, Richmond, VA 23230

[View Larger Map](#)

Cost:

This personal evangelism seminar is free. It is sponsored by Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Chris will have a resource table available for purchase of DVDs, CDs, and books.

Other Notes:

- Registration information will be shared with EvangelismCoach.org.
- Lunch will be provided. More information as time draws closer.
- A resource table will be available, where Chris will provide audio CDs and other items from his resources.
- When you register online, you'll receive a complimentary subscription to the weekly newsletter by email, every Friday at 2pm. You can unsubscribe at any time.

Register Here:

[Register](#) online for free. You'll receive reminders as the conference draws near.

Online event registration for Personal Evangelism for Ordinary People powered by Eventbrite

We encourage you to bring your ministry leadership team to this event.

Event is open to the public and other churches are invited to register and attend.

Who is Chris Walker?

Chris Walker, of <https://www.evangelismcoach.org>, is the featured speaker.

He is fittingly known as the Evangelism Coach because of his extensive work with churches in the US and Latin America in the areas of evangelism and church growth. Chris is an ordained pastor in the Presbyterian Church (USA).

His website has over 1000 articles on personal evangelism, congregational evangelism, and hospitality, as well as a podcast feed, all for free.

He has written:



- [Church Greeters 101](#),
- [How to Welcome Church Visitors](#)

Chris has also recorded 2 CDs on church hospitality issues, authored 2 DVDs for training greeters, and a 3 DVD set on Breaking Unseen Barriers that keep your visitors from coming back. Plus, he's recorded additional DVDS and CDs on personal evangelism. All resources will be available at the resource table. [Credit Cards](#) will be accepted.

"Fall 2010 has gone well. I believe the First Touch teams have a renewed sense of purpose and others are doing their part to apply the welcoming concepts they learned when you spoke here. I heard from many folks about how helpful and energizing it was to hear you speak.

Your talk helped us see the need to engage people, not just serve them. I think overall it was one of our most successful events ever, and was a real example of how the momentum is shifting in a positive way." P Strachan, Midlothian VA.

Chris is a highly accessible speaker who brings a passion and energy to his workshops that is contagious.

Geoff McClean, Pastor

I feel rejuvenated in learning to pray after the Salvation Army Quest ministry workshops in Michigan. Chris is very passionate and on fire for what he speaks about. Keep up the good work!

Dean Groendal
Muskegon Corps, Salvation Army

Filed Under: [Conferences](#), [Personal Evangelism](#), [Training Options](#)

NOVEMBER 3, 2014 BY **EVANGELISMCOACH**

[LEAVE A COMMENT](#)

The fear of the E-word

In the November 2014 issue of *Presbyterians Today*, I share an article that gives 3 basic steps to overcome your personal fear of evangelism.

Sometimes called “the e-word,” as if evangelism is an unspeakable curse word, personal evangelism is generally not a regular discipline among believers in mainline churches because of associations with [pushy street preachers](#).

Here is a snippet from the article:

When it comes to personal evangelism, the street preacher is the negative go-to stereotype. The common reaction is “I don’t want to do *that*.”

Though a few are indeed gifted to be effective street preachers (and [I’ve done it myself in parks and city streets](#)), the rest of us want a more natural way to share our faith.

Easier done than said

The problem for many people is that talking about faith is difficult.

In the final hours of my mother’s life, she whispered, “I’ve always believed in Jesus; I just didn’t talk about it.” Others have told me that they hope that their good behavior is enough of a sermon that they don’t need to say anything. Ernest L. Gardner III, interim pastor at Philadelphia Presbyterian Church in Mint Hill, North Carolina, says, “I have found that cradle Presbyterians are more accustomed to having their church doors open to visitors than [they are] to engaging others directly about what it means to be a follower of Christ.”



There are many reasons we choose not to talk about our faith. We don't want to participate in high-pressure tactics or in the kinds of emotional manipulation seen on television. We don't want our friends to think we're foolish or simple-minded. Nor do we want to be perceived as combative or disrespectful of others' deeply held religious beliefs. Laura Long, pastor of Clinchfield Presbyterian Church in Marion, North Carolina, says, "People don't want to be perceived as nosy about another person's beliefs."

We may feel that we lack the skills or knowledge to effectively discuss being a follower of Jesus. I remember hearing an evangelist compare, point by point, the beliefs of Hinduism, Islam, and Christianity. I began to panic because I knew I couldn't give a presentation like that. When we're challenged about the existence of God, or about why we believe that God is love and that God sent Jesus to die for our sins, we may feel as if we can't give a reasonable defense of our belief.

In a way, we sometimes undermine ourselves. If we aren't nurturing our relationship with Christ, we'll miss out on God's work in our life; we won't recognize how God is transforming us, leading us, using us, or teaching us. And that can affect how we witness to others. According to pastor Geoff McLean of Christ Presbyterian Church in Fairfax, Virginia, "If we don't appreciate the changes that God works in our life, we have little to say . . . about the relevance of following Jesus."

Finally, we may feel uncomfortable about sharing our faith because we haven't thought about how to explain the gospel in a simple way. A friend once asked me, "Chris, what is the gospel?" My obtuse, 10-minute, directionless explanation taught me that, even though I had two seminary degrees, I couldn't explain the gospel in simple terms. I was not prepared.

I interviewed a couple of Presbyterian pastors, some of whom are using the Engage curriculum on personal evangelism. That resource is one that I can recommend. It uses some of the same principles that I teach in [my own evangelism seminars](#) about watching for [spiritual thirst](#) and engaging people in intentional conversation.

These basic steps can help:

1. Talk about your own experiences with Jesus, not just your church.

Talking about your church is easy, but talking about your own experiences is more meaningful. You might describe how the wisdom of Scripture is helping you in some difficult season in your life. You might talk about how you see the Lord answering particular prayers. Or you might describe how the Lord has used you in some ministry.

2. Talk about how you became a follower of Jesus, not just a member of your church.

I've found that many Presbyterians have difficulty answering the question "When did Jesus become real to you?" It's not that they don't have faith but that they lack words to express

that faith. Think back to some season in your life when it was clear that you had an encounter with Jesus. Try to describe that experience without using overly religious words.

3. Talk about the gospel of Christ, not just your church's weekend message.

You may find it easy to talk about Sunday's sermon or even why you were moved by the anthem the choir sang. While those are good to talk about, we need to know the core content of the gospel of Jesus Christ and be able to explain it in a meaningful way to people who may have never read the Bible.

Due to space requirements, I didn't put a fourth one in there, but here is one that I would add:

4. Talk about the difference Jesus has made in your life, not just your church programs that do good.

You may find it easy to share how you give to the food pantry, tutor a child, or repair the car of a single mom. But how has becoming a follower of Christ changed you? Could you share your [hope filled testimony story in two phrases](#)?

photo credit: [nan palmero](#) via [cc](#)

Filed Under: [Personal Evangelism](#) Tagged With: [fear](#), [Fears](#), [Personal Evangelism](#), [Street Preacher](#), [Street Preaching](#), [witness](#), [witnessing](#)

SEPTEMBER 12, 2014 BY **EVANGELISMCOACH**

2 COMMENTS

Conference: Personal Evangelism for

Ordinary People

October 25, 2014

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I would highly recommend this class to anyone with a heart for becoming more verbal in their witness. — Participant

Come to learn some of the practical ways Chris has discovered to share your faith out of his research, study, and first hand real life experience from serving as a local pastor, planting two churches and doing evangelism work cross culturally in 9 different countries.

Date:

Saturday, October 25 2014

9:00a – 4:30p

Registration opens at 8:30am.

Location:

Philadelphia Presbyterian Church, Mint Hill, NC

11501 Bain School Rd, Mint Hill, NC 28227

[View Larger Map](#)

Cost:

This personal evangelism seminar is free.

It is sponsored by Philadelphia Presbyterian Church

Other Notes:

- Registration information will be shared with EvangelismCoach.org.
- Lunch will be provided for a nominal cost, or you may bring your own. More information as time draws closer.
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